

LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission Minutes
Thursday, March 14, 2019, 6:30 pm
Robbins Library, 4th floor conference room, 700 Massachusetts Ave.

Commissioners present: Julia Forsythe, Bill Gardiner, Mel Goldsipe (vice chair), Helene Newberg

Absent: Brooks Harrelson, Lisa Krinsky, Anna Watson (chair)

Liaisons present: Marci Shapiro-Ide (Council on Aging)

Guests: Colin Bunnell (MSW student)

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We noted that this meeting is on Pi Day.
- March 31, 2019 will be the annual Trans Day of Visibility.
- There have no applications for the two vacancies on the Rainbow Commission. Interested persons can see the post on the Town website or the Rainbow Commission website or Facebook page.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Commissioner Gardiner moved the nomination of Mel Goldsipe to be the Chair of the Rainbow Commission for the year March 2109 to March 2020. Commissioner Newberg seconded. The motion passed without objection. No further nominations for Chair were made.

Commissioner Gardiner moved the nomination of Julia Forsythe to be the Vice Chair of the Rainbow Commission for the year March 2019 to March 2020. Commissioner Newberg seconded. The motion passed without objection. No further nominations for Vice Chair were made.

OPEN FORUM

Marci Shapiro-Ide reminded us about the Council on Aging's ABCs of LGBTQ+ Aging program to be held at the Senior Center on April 2 starting at 7 pm. Commissioners Gardiner and Goldsipe will represent the Commission at that meeting.

The Commission discussed starting an Arlington LGBTQIA+ Meetup group and splitting the costs with the COA as an additional way to publicize our events.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Helene Newberg moved the approval of the minutes from the February 21 meeting. Commissioner Gardiner seconded. The motion passed without objection.

LETTER TO SISTER CITY IN NAGAOKAKYO, JAPAN

Commissioner Gardiner moved that a representative of the Arlington Rainbow Commission contact leaders of the sister city program with Nagaokakyo, Japan to see if a letter of support for the equal marriage movement would be useful and helpful. If our representative learns that

indeed community leaders in our sister city would welcome a letter of support then we will send the letter drafted by Commissioner Watson. Commissioner Forsythe seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection.

BUDGET SUBMITTED TO THE TOWN FINANCE COMMITTEE

Commissioner Krinsky and Commissioner Gardiner presented the following proposed budget to the Town of Arlington Finance Committee on March 13, 2019.

Strategic Planning		\$1,200
Town Day		\$500
Five Community Programs	\$800	
Marketing/Outreach/ Printing	\$500	
Event/Program Supplies		\$500
Pride Events		\$500
TOTAL:		\$4,000

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Christine Bongiorno has allocated \$700 for the Rainbow Commission to continue our strategic planning process this fiscal year. A date for the meeting has not been set yet.

SUBCOMMITTEES

PRIDE: Commissioner Forsythe will chair the Pride subcommittee, which also includes Commissioners Watson and Gardiner and Marci Shapiro-Ide from the Council on Aging. We will also reach out to the Arlington Center for the Arts for a liaison.

COMMUNICATIONS: Commissioner Newberg will chair the subcommittee, with work to commence after the strategic planning session. Commissioners Goldsipe and Harrelson will also serve on the subcommittee.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES: Commissioners Goldsipe and Newberg will collaborate to create a first draft of the Policies and Procedures, which can draw upon existing policies from groups like the Human Rights Commission. Commissioner Krinsky has also been asked to participate.

EVENTS

On Saturday, March 16 there will be a Rainbow Commission Crafts & Community event for members of the LGBTQIA+ community at the Robbins Library. Commissioners Goldsipe and Harrelson will be on hand. Snacks will be provided by FoodLink.

Commissioner Gardiner moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Forsythe seconded. The motion passed without objection. The meeting adjourned at 7:10.

Minutes submitted by Bill Gardiner, Commissioner